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TELCON

Henry Kissinger/Len Garment  
10/13/73 12:55 p.m.

K: Len

G: Yeh, say I just wanted to say that the people in the community have identified your colleague over at Defense as a real roadblock and I don't know what--they are liable to do a lot of screaming about him very soon

K: Well, that is true, he was a roadblock.

G: You say was?

K: No, I've thrwn the fear of God in him.

G: I don't see why they--I mean whatever they want to do, they do, it's up to them.

K: That's right.

G: I think what they are planning to do, they are going to go after George Bush and various other people. Tower, Connally, what have you.

K: That's their problem, but one thing I resent beyond description that they're coming after me.

G: I thought they were not.

K: There isn't a day that goes by without my receiving a threatening phone call from Jackson.

G: Well they can't control him.

K: About the mismanagement of crisis, how's he going to prove that this was a strategic disaster.

G: But he is--has his own testifying and they do not control him. He dominates them more. But there has been no comment from the community --as a matter of fact they called me to say you had received some wires and so forth that would be matters of which they have no control.

K: Because we have done everything that is humanly possible.

G: I think there is a \_\_\_\_\_ of real weakness on our part at this point and particularly the President, I mean in the total Watergate setting --failure to act in a decisive effective way in supplying what they need.

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K: Well you can be sure that I am aware of that--that we run into massive sabotage which has now been broken.

G: That's important. And I'm talking about this really from the standpoint of the kind of problems that Fred Buzhardt and myself have run into and it's a matter in which he and I share

K: We have now have--this Administration is a disaster. I had a strategy which would have wound up with a ceasefire by Monday or Tuesday --if the Defense Dept Arabists would have allowed me to do it. Now they sabotaged it, now they have to pour in high-profile stuff into Israel, now we are going to wind up with the Arabs mad

EO25x6 OSD

G: Yeh, well it is criminal. Beyond being incompetent and traditional obstructionism is so harmful to everything with all the problems we have. But if we are forced to that, at least that action should be taken very promptly and decisively or it will screw up everything else.

K: [REDACTED] EO25x6 OSD

G: You know what is needed.

K: What is needed is certainly not pressure on me.

G: I know where it has to be directed. But they understand where the problem is.

K: Also the President, occasionally, needs a little praise.

G: Hm huh. One thing will do it, if we can get F-4's flying in there

K: We've got 14 F-4's

G: As of when?

K: As of now.

G: Okay. I'll speak around the \_\_\_\_\_ of various people.

K: Don't disclose that figure.

G: I understand.

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